



OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL



JANICE BREWER
GOVERNOR

ROBERT BARGER
DIRECTOR

PHILLIP C. MELE
FIRE MARSHAL

1110 WEST WASHINGTON, SUITE 100
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007
(602) 364-1003
(602) 364-1052 FAX

400 WEST CONGRESS, SUITE 121
TUCSON, ARIZONA 85701
(520) 628-6920
(520) 628-6930 FAX

MEMORANDUM

TO: THE ARIZONA STATE FIRE SERVICE

FROM: PHIL MELE, STATE FIRE MARSHAL 

DATE: January 7, 2010

SUBJECT: SUSPENSION OF OSFM PROGRAMS AND PROCESS CHANGES

Due to new budget reductions the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) will immediately suspend programs and change Office policies and procedures as necessary to reflect the reduced staffing of the Office. We will continue to make changes in the next few weeks.

Please check the OSFM website for updates and information regarding fire training and records management.

1. Effective Immediately:

- a. The training and certification programs of the Training Division of the Office of the State Fire Marshal is suspended and the offices closed.
- b. The position of Fire Training Director will be redirected to work on transitioning training to other State Fire Service organizations.
- c. The OSFM will limit involvement in the State Fire School to supporting the initiatives and work of the State Fire Training committee.
- d. Access to fire training and certification records will not be accessible through the OSFM.
- e. Regional outreach planning and coordination will be discontinued.
- f. The OSFM will no longer coordinate statewide fire training curriculums and validation of fire instructor qualifications.
- g. The OSFM will not accept any training programs for national accreditation.
- h. The Office will stop coordination and certification for high school fire science and community college fire career preparation programs.

- i. The OSFM will not apply for the annual fire training grant from the National Fire Academy.
- j. The position of Fire Resource Coordinator will be vacated.
- k. The OSFM will no longer support or offer assistance for the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS).
- l. The OSFM will no longer have available statewide fire life and property loss information and statistics.
- m. The OSFM will end support and participation in the State Fire Mutual Aid Plan.
- n. The OSFM will end efforts to compile, catalog and track the availability of fire resources in Arizona.
- o. The OSFM will discontinue work on development and support of a centralized Juvenile Fire setter tracking database.

2. Changes expected to be made in the next few weeks:

- a. The OSFM inspector position in Flagstaff will be relocated to the Phoenix office to centralize all inspection operations in Phoenix and Tucson office locations.
 - b. To limit costs all area inspections will move to hard advanced date scheduling by location.
 - c. The OSFM will move to a no-return inspection follow-up process for other than defined fire/life safety critical violations.
 - d. The OSFM will refocus inspection priorities to elementary, middle and high schools with priority to schools in rural areas not served by fire districts, rural or urban fire departments. The OSFM goal for these schools will be an inspection interval not to exceed 24 months.
 - e. The OSFM will not conduct regular fire inspection of business occupancies in unincorporated areas.
 - f. The OSFM will seek the assistance of local fire jurisdictions to address an individual fire/life safety complaint to limit non-scheduled inspector travel.
- 3. The OSFM will limit the assistance for enforcement of state laws and ordinances to conditions that pose an imminent hazard to life or property.
 - 4. The OSFM will discontinue the investigation of fires in all school, state and county buildings.
 - 5. The OSFM will no longer provide fire investigation assistance to local fire jurisdictions.